B. In the Claims

Please amend the claims as set forth below. Upon entry of the present amendment, the status of the claims will be as follows:

1. Previously cancelled

2. (Currently amended) A method of detecting a growth differentiation factor-5 (GDF-5) associated cell proliferative disorder, comprising contacting a GDF-5 specific antibody, which specifically binds a GDF-5 polypeptide having an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:13, or an antigen binding fragment of ~~a~~ said GDF-5 specific antibody, with a specimen of a subject suspected of having a GDF-5 associated disorder, and detecting binding of the antibody or the antigen binding fragment of the antibody, wherein an increased or decreased level of binding to the specimen as compared to binding to a normal cell is indicative of a GDF-5 associated cell proliferative disorder.

3. (Previously added) The method of claim 2, wherein the cell proliferative disorder is a uterine neoplasm or endometriosis.

4. (Previously added) The method of claim 2, wherein the cell proliferative disorder is a skeletal disorder.

5. (Previously added) The method of claim 2, wherein the detecting is *in vivo*.

6. (Previously added) The method of claim 2, wherein the detection is *in vitro*.

7. (Previously added) The method of claim 2, wherein the antibody comprises a detectable label.

8. (Previously added) The method of claim 7, wherein the detectable label is a radioisotope, a fluorescent compound, a bioluminescent compound, a chemiluminescent compound, an enzyme, a colloidal metal, a phosphorescent compound, or a paramagnetic isotope.

9. (Previously added) The method of claim 2, wherein the antibody comprises a hapten coupled thereto.

10. (Previously added) The method of claim 9, wherein the hapten is biotin, dinitrophenyl, puridoxal, or fluorescein.

11. (Previously added) The method of claim 2, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

12. (Previously added) The method of claim 2, wherein the antigen binding fragment of the GDF-5 specific antibody is an Fab fragment or an $F(ab')_2$ fragment.

13. (Previously added) The method of claim 2, wherein the antibody or antigen binding fragment of the antibody is bound to a solid phase carrier.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 ~~11~~, wherein the solid phase carrier comprises glass, polystyrene, polypropylene, polyethylene, dextran, nylon, amylase, natural cellulose, modified cellulose, polyacrylamide, agarose or magnetite.